

Lava Beds National Monument PO Box 1240 Tulelake, CA 96134

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## Lava Beds National Monument News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Free Entrance to Lava Beds National Monument and the Tule Lake Unit

TULELAKE, California— Superintendent Mike Reynolds announces that in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Lava Beds National Monument and the Tule Lake Unit have fee-free entry on Monday, January 20, 2014.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a tireless advocate of civil rights and of equality for Americans. This is your opportunity to explore at length both Lava Beds National Monument and the Tule Lake Unit's links to civil rights. Both are sites of conscious that tell the story of the Modoc War and the wartime treatment of Japanese-Americans. Each site explores the painful journey to national racial equality that Dr. King fought for in his lifetime.

"The holiday provides the perfect opportunity to visit a national park with a connection to Dr. King's struggles for human rights," says Renyolds. "Winter is an especially great time to visit Lava Beds as there are no crowds."

Reynolds invites everyone to take the time to learn more about their local history this fee-free day and experience the wonders of Lava Beds while the normal \$10 fee is waived. The Tule Lake Unit can be visited by contacting the Lava Beds National Monument Visitor Center (530-667-8113).

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Lava Beds National Monument, established in 1925, is a land of turmoil, both geologic and historic. Over the last half-million years, volcanic eruptions have created a rugged landscape dotted with diverse volcanic features. Lava tube caves, Native American sites, historic battlefields and a high desert wilderness experience await you!

For more information about visiting Lava Beds National Monument, call 530-667-8113, email <a href="mailto:labe\_interpretation@nps.gov">labe\_interpretation@nps.gov</a>, or go to <a href="mailto:www.nps.gov/labe">www.nps.gov/labe</a>. Also, visit the park's Facebook and Twitter pages.

The Tule Lake Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, established in 2008, is a nationally significant site dedicated to telling the story of the cost of war on the home front and the lasting effects of the unjust incarceration of over 29,000 US citizens and long-term residents of Japanese ancestry at the Tule Lake Segregation Center.

Monument, call 530-667-8113, email <u>tule_interpretation@nps.gov</u> , or go to <u>www.nps.gov/tule</u> .	
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